

COUNTDOWN ^{TO} THE APOCALYPSE

JESUS ON THE END TIMES

Matthew 24-25

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Introduction: What did Jesus have to say about His return to earth? More than most people realize. Today, we are going to look at Jesus's most extensive teaching about His Second Coming and the signs that would precede it.

I. End-Time Extremes To Avoid

A. **Fanaticism**

B. **Fatalism**

C. **Cynicism**



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II. What Jesus Said About The End Times (Matthew 24-25)

A. The Context for Jesus's Teaching

Matthew 24:1-2 ¹ And Jesus came out from the temple and was going away when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him. ² And He answered and said to them, 'Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here shall be left upon another, which will not be torn down.'

Matthew 24:3b "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"

Matthew 24:29-31 ²⁹ But immediately after the tribulation of those days THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken, ³⁰ and then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory. ³¹ And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET AND THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other."

B. Five Signs of Jesus's Second Coming

1. Spiritual **deception** (Matthew 24:4-5)

Matthew 24:4-5 ⁴ And Jesus answered and said to them, 'See to it that no one misleads you. ⁵ For many will come in My name saying, 'I am the Christ' and will mislead many.'



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2. International **conflict** (Matthew 24:6-7a)

Matthew 24:6-7a “⁶ And you will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars; see that you are not frightened, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end. ^{7a} For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom...”

3. Natural **disasters** (Matthew 24:7b-8)

Matthew 24:7b-8 “^{7b} ...and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes. ⁸ But all these things are merely the beginning of birth pangs.”

4. Fierce **persecution** (Matthew 24:9)

Matthew 24:9 “Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name.”

5. Widespread **apostasy** (Matthew 24:10-12)

Matthew 24:10-12 “¹⁰ And at that time many will fall away and will deliver up one another and hate one another. ¹¹ And many false prophets will arise, and will mislead many. ¹² And because lawlessness is increased, most people’s love will grow cold.”

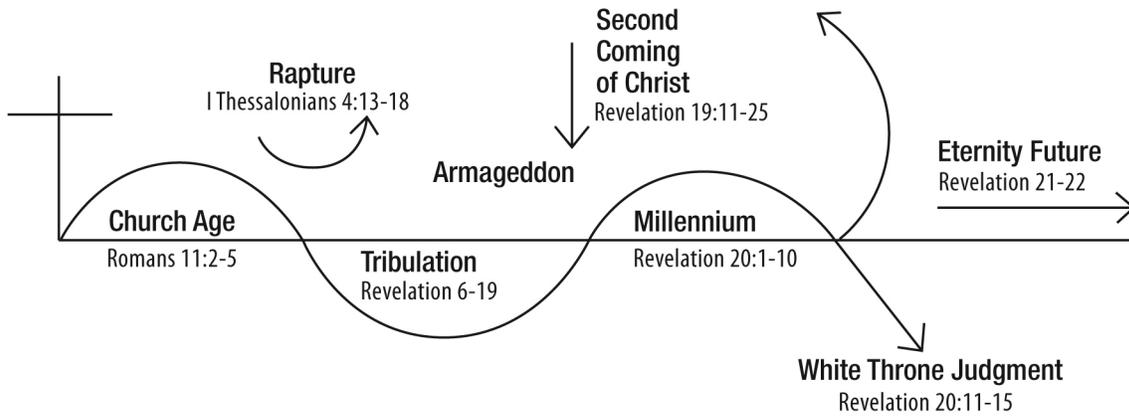


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III. A Perspective Of The End Times



IV. How To Interpret The "Signs of the Times"

- A. The Signs Will be Present in **Every** Generation

- B. The Signs Will Accelerate in **Intensity** and **Frequency** as We Approach "The End"

Matthew 24:8 "But all these things are merely the beginning of birth pangs."

Conclusion